

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 MC-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01

IGA-01 L-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SP-02 SSO-00 INRE-00 /051 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037813

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PE

SUBJECT: MAP AND MILITARY SALES FOR PERU

REF: LIMA 3970

1. AFP CALLED DEPARTMENT (ARA/LA/EP) YESTERDAY, FEBRUARY 18, TO ASK ABOUT "REPORTED" US DECISION TO SUSPEND ARMS SALES TO PERU; QUESTION WAS NOT PUT IN CONTEXT OF US EFFORT TO BALANCE PERUVIAN-CHILEAN ARMAMENTS INVENTORIES/CAPABILITIES. QUESTIONER WAS TOLD THERE IS NOTHING TO THE STORY.

2. FBIS (NO. 85) LAST EVENING MOVED PRELA PICKUP OF LA CRONICA'S FEB. 18 VERSION OF AFP REPORT. THUS, FIRST DEPARTMENT KNEW OF EXISTENCE OF STORY WAS MORNING OF FEBRUARY 19. REFTEL ARRIVED WHILE WE WERE CHECKING GENESIS OF AFP REPORT.

3. AFP'S WASHINGTON BUREAU TOLD DEPARTMENT ITS PERU AID SUSPENSION STORY (BY STAFFER GUMPert) MOVED ON LATIN WIRE SATURDAY, FEB. 15. BUREAU CHIEF ACKNOWLEDGED STORY WAS SPECULATIVE.

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4. DEPARTMENT UNABLE TO SOLVE RIDDLE OF AFP SOURCE, SINCE AGENCY'S ONLY KNOWN CONTACT HERE IS THAT DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 1 ABOVE. CONTRIBUTING TO PUZZLE IS ATTRIBUTION FOR STORY, "FUENTES AUTORIZADAS".

5. IN ANY EVENT, IF DEPARTMENT IS ASKED ABOUT STORY WE WILL RESPOND AS WE DID IN PARAGRAPH 1, AND POINT OUT THAT DELIVERIES OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT SOLD TO THE GOP IN 1973 AND 1974 CONTINUE. (ON BACKGROUND THE TOTAL VALUE OF THESE PURCHASES IS DOLLARS 70 MILLION.) IF ASKED WHETHER DEPARTMENT STUDYING POSSIBILITY OF ARMS CURTAILMENT TO PERU, WE WILL SAY WE CONTINUE TO HAVE UNDER CONSIDERATION VARIOUS PURCHASE PROPOSALS BY GOP. KISSINGER

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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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